30th July 1953]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (a) The sanctioned bed strength of the District Headquarters Hospital, Nellore, is 120. The in-patients admitted are in excess of this number. One hundred and forty-eight in-patients are provided with cots and the remaining patients have to lie down on the floor. The patients who cannot be provided with cots, are provided with mats, carpets, pillows and other bed linen. All important and major surgical cases are provided with cots. But only some of the minor and less important surgical cases are kept on the floor. Additional accommodation is necessary but in the present financial stringency, the Government are not in a position to find funds for costruction of buildings to meet the demand in this and other cases. The Government have, however, accepted the offers of two private gentlemen to construct a ward of 10 beds for children and a general ward of 12 beds respectively in the Headquarters Hospital, Nellore. After these two wards come into use, the bed strength will be increased.

" (b) The nursing staff and the nursing orderlies now employed in the Government Headquarters hospitals in the districts including the Headquarters Hospital, Nellore, are based on the sanctioned bed strength of the hospitals at the rate of one nurse for every 8 beds, and one nursing orderly for every 8 beds, as the actual number of in-patients admitted is always fluctuating."

Edayakkal bund in Karimba, Walluvanad taluk.

* 1269 *Q.*—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any representation that the bund at Edayakkal in Karimba amsam in Walluvanad, Malabar, is damaged and the ryots are not benefited to any extent by that bund; and

(b) whether it is a fact that water-cess is being collected from the agriculturists of that area even though they are not benefited?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER:—" (a) & (b) The Government have not constructed any bund at Edayakkal, Walluvanad taluk, but a weir has been built by the Public Works Department in 1951 across the Machanthodu in the neighbourhood. It is presumed that the question refers to this weir.

" During 1952-53, the ryots concerned failed to fix the shutters on the anicut body wall at the proper time so as to conserve the flow in the stream, but no damage was caused thereby to the anicut body wall.

" No water cess has been so far collected from the ryots in the area.

" The Government have not received any representation on the subject."